

# News Release

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## **Riverside in-pipe turbine project first of its kind**

**RIVERSIDE, Calif.** – Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) is the first city in the country to test an in-pipe hydro electric generator that will use the flow of water through the pipe to generate electricity.

The 48-inch pipe with a vertical axis spherical turbine inside replaced a section of aged pipe yesterday at the Linden Street Booster Station. The pipe carries Gage Canal water from the water basins in San Bernardino into the city.

“We believe it’s the first system like this in the country, and we’re excited to see the results,” said RPU General Manager David Wright. “This is what green technology is all about -- continuing environmental responsibility. We have high hopes that this is the first step toward utilizing already-existing municipal infrastructures to create energy for our customers.”



The pipe turbine, created by Northwest Pipe Company and Lucid Energy Technologies, will generate between 2 and 7 kilowatts of energy on a continuous basis, depending on the velocity of water through the pipe.

For the next month, Northwest Pipe and Lucid will monitor the pipe for pressure measurements, flow measurements of velocity, energy capture from that velocity, durability and other data.

According to a fact sheet released by Northwest Pipe Company, Riverside was chosen for the real-world testing of this system largely because of RPU's water distribution sites, efforts in renewable energy and staff enthusiasm.

"The City of Riverside is the City of Arts and Innovation," said Mayor Ron Loveridge, "and our city is committed to being a home to innovative ideas, especially those that make us a greener city."

*Photo by Daniel Balboa*

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Established in 1895, Riverside Public Utilities is a consumer-owned water and electric utility governed by a board of nine community volunteers that provides high quality, reliable services to over 107,000 metered electric customers and 63,400 metered water customers throughout the City of Riverside. The Utility is committed to increased use of renewable energy resources and sustainable living practices that help reduce environmental impacts within the City of Riverside and the state of California.

[www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com](http://www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com)

[www.GreenRiverside.com](http://www.GreenRiverside.com)

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